

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

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1. An access inducing method comprising:  
a step automatically making, with respect to a  
user, a notification which includes information for  
inducing the user to a homepage when a predetermined  
10 condition is satisfied, with reference to a point in  
time when the user last made access to the homepage.

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2. The access inducing method as claimed  
in claim 1, wherein said information includes update  
information of the homepage on or after said point  
in time.

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3. The access inducing method as claimed  
25 in claim 1, wherein the predetermined condition is  
formed by a lapse of a predetermined time from said  
point in time.

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4. The access inducing method as claimed  
in claim 1, further comprising:  
a step urging the user to input user  
35 information,  
said notification being made based on the user  
information.

5. The access inducing method as claimed  
in claim 4, wherein the user information includes  
notifying destination information, and the  
notification is made by a communication method  
5 depending on the notifying destination information.

10 6. An access inducing apparatus  
comprising:  
first recording means for recording a point in  
time when a user last made access to a homepage;  
creating means for creating information for  
15 inducing the user to the homepage; and  
notifying means for automatically making a  
notification which includes said information with  
respect to the user when a predetermined condition  
is satisfied with reference to said point in time.

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7. The access inducing apparatus as  
25 claimed in claim 6, wherein said creating means  
creates information including update information of  
the homepage on or after said point in time.

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8. The access inducing apparatus as  
claimed in claim 6, wherein said predetermined  
condition is formed by a lapse of a predetermined  
35 time from said point in time.

9. The access inducing apparatus as claimed in claim 6, further comprising:

second recording means for recording user information input by the user,

5 said notifying means making the notification based on the user information.

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10. The access inducing apparatus as claimed in claim 9, wherein the user information includes notifying destination information, and said notifying means makes the notification by a  
15 communication method depending on the notifying destination information.

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11. A computer-readable storage medium which stores a program for causing a computer to carry out a process of inducing a user to a homepage, said program comprising:

25 a first recording procedure causing the computer to record a point in time when the user last made access to the homepage;

a creating procedure causing the computer to create information for inducing the user to the  
30 homepage; and

a notifying procedure causing the computer to automatically making a notification which includes said information with respect to the user when a predetermined condition is satisfied with reference  
35 to said point in time.

12. The computer-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 11, wherein said creating procedure causes the computer to create information including update information of the homepage on or after said point in time.

10                    13. The computer-readable storage medium  
as claimed in claim 11, wherein said predetermined  
condition is formed by a lapse of a predetermined  
time from said point in time.

14. The computer-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 11, wherein said program further comprises:

20 a second recording procedure causing the computer to record user information input by the user,

said notifying procedure causing the computer

25 to make the notification based on the user information.

30                   15. The computer-readable storage medium  
as claimed in claim 14, wherein the user information  
includes notifying destination information, and said  
notifying procedure causes the computer to make the  
35 notification by a communication method depending on  
the notifying destination information.

16. An access inducing apparatus comprising:

a recording part which records a point in time when a user last made access to a homepage;

5       a creating part which creates information for  
inducing the user to the homepage; and

a notifying part which automatically makes a notification which includes said information with respect to the user when a predetermined condition is satisfied with reference to said point in time.

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